

Natural Selection Performance Task

Directions:

1. Have Technician get your materials.
2. Using the materials provided, design a simulation of natural selection that could be shown to younger kids so that they too can understand what natural selection is.
3. Write a clear set of rules for your simulation so that anyone could follow it and understand how it relates to natural selection.

Hint: Each bean can represent an individual in a population and each color can represent a phenotypic trait. Each cloth can represent a different environment. Students can, for an example, show the process of natural selection through predation by having a group member act as the “predator” to pick up as many beads as he can in a 10 second interval. Then the remaining individuals could reproduce to have some offspring, or add a few more of the surviving beans’ colors, and repeat the process a set amount of times.

Materials:

- one index card
- one container of beans
- Table Bin
- one paper filter
- one container of stones
- Forceps
- one paper towel
- one container of shells
- one spoon

Simulation:

Rules of Simulation	Explanation of Rules